[redacted]

Georgetown, Guyana

Rec'd georgetown 11/30/78

E

BL

775

January 4, 1978

[redacted]

Dear [redacted]

I refer to your letter of December 8, 1977.

I have read your letter with great interest. I am aware of the charges made against the People's Temple, however, I have not had any member of that organization in Guyana substantiate the charges in your letter. I have visited Jonestown and will be travelling there again within the next week to investigate whether American citizens are being held against their will or otherwise mistreated. You should understand that I do not have any authority to force any organization to return its members to the United States unless individuals belonging to the organization request to return. Alternatively, should members of the People's Temple in Guyana make specific complaints against that organization, then I can refer these complaints to the Government of Guyana for investigation and prosecution.

BL

I trust that the above information is responsive to your letter. Please accept my best wishes.

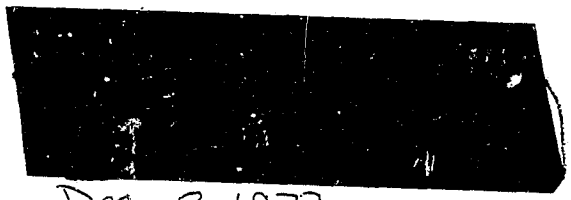
DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY [redacted] DATE 3/2/87
PORTIONS DENIED AS INDICATED

Sincerely,

Richard A. Mc Coy
American Consul

CONS:RAMcCoy:mf

EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
DEC 19 1977
GEORGETOWN



Dec. 8, 1977.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Dear MR. McCoy,

The Reverend Jim Jones has now relocated in Guyana, So. Amer. (Georgetown). He has taken several hundred people over there with him. These people are living in the form of a concentration camp. They are being fed poorly. They serve these people sugar rice in the morning + evenings. In the afternoon they have peanut butter. This is there every day menu.

They are forced to work for unlimited hours everyday. Jim says they are working in his Agricultural Mission. This so-called mission is really in the form of slavery.

If anyone refuses to do the chore that's expected of them, they will be severly punished. There have been times when he has made them dig a well. After they have completed, they are put into it. They are told to

Stay awake for 48 hrs. or more. If they fall asleep before the time set is completed, something is dropped upon there heads. This is Jim's form of discipline.

There's a lot more I could tell, but there isn't much time. Please investigate this matter as quickly as you possibly can. Just please help us to help these people!

Sincerely,

[redacted]